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Welcome to the new look Bowls Development Alliance bi-monthly newsletter. When the BDA website was first launched it was decided to cease the production of the newsletter. However many of you have told us that you liked the newsletter and so we have decided to re introduce it. Where possible we would like clubs to download and print off copies and place on your club notice board for all your club members to read.

New BDA Team Takes Shape

Three new people have joined the BDA team to help with the vast challenge we face to get more people playing this great game of bowls.

Chris Parkin is the new Business Support Officer. Chris is based in an office within the headquarters of the EIBA Ltd at Melton Mowbray. Chris is responsible for the day to day running of the BDA including overseeing of the finances, developing and maintaining a new website and managing the "Have Mat Will Travel" programme as well as supporting the work of other team members.



The BDA Team from left to right: Paul Humphrey, Susan Cooper, John Juylan and Chris Parkin

Paul Humphreys joins as one of two new Development officers. Paul lives in York and will be supporting the intervention areas of 3 Counties, Northumberland, Shropshire and Lancashire as well as leading on Sport Makers, a new Sport England programme aimed at getting more volunteers into local clubs.

The final member is **John Juylan** who lives in Devon and who joined the team at the beginning of September. John will be supporting Cornwall, Devon, Hertfordshire, Hampshire and Surrey intervention areas. John brings a lot of experience of sport development to the job and along with Paul will be working with clubs to really drive up those participation numbers.

STOP PRESS

Do you have a good news item for the next newsletter?
If so, please email info@bowlsdevelopmentalliance.com

Have Mat Will Travel



The road show is proving so successful that the BDA have now leased a second van which will be based in York and will cover the north of the country.

The transit vans contain an indoor and outdoor mat, bowls, fenders, table, chairs, pop up banners, marketing materials and “freebies” to give away.

Once set up at a major event or venue local club volunteers assist in running the day, offering people of all ages the chance to try the game. Those who are interested are given details of local clubs and offered a free voucher which they can use at any of the clubs involved to have a game for an hour.

The road show recently attended the 2 day 50+ Retirement Show at Olympia in London. Over 500 people tried the sport and 206 signed up to receive information on clubs nearest to them.



We are keen to have the vans in use every week of the year so if you have any good ideas as to where it could be used please give Chris a call on 01664 484926.

National Campaign – Bring A Friend



The BDA is running a national, 1 day event on Saturday 29th October called “Bring A Friend Day”. We are encouraging as many clubs as possible, from any code, to host a Bring A Friend event on this day with focus being on current members to bring their non-bowling friends down to their club to enjoy an informal and fun day of bowls and social entertainment.

If your club is interested in hosting a Bring A Friend event, please complete a short registration form, after which an information pack will be sent to you to help you in your preparations for the event.

The registration form is available on our website www.bowlsdevelopmentalliance.com/bringafriend

If you have any questions regarding the Bring A Friend Day, please contact Paul Humphreys paulhumphreys@bowlsdevelopmentalliance.com or 07557 819569.



Website

If you have access to a computer please have a look at our refreshed website. We hope that the new format will be more interactive and will make available to you any information that will assist you with the development of your club

www.bowlsdevelopmentalliance.com



Places People Play

Sports Makers

Sport Makers is a Sport England driven project designed to encourage more people over the age of 16 to get involved in volunteering with the aim of recruiting 40,000 new sports volunteers to organise and lead a number of community sporting events across the country. The BDA is preparing a number of different opportunities for any Sport Makers who wish to volunteer within Bowls. If your club has a specific need for a volunteer, perhaps you need someone to help to design and set up a website, for example, then please contact Paul Humphreys with details of the task that your club needs assistance with.



Safeguarding

The BDA has been awarded the **NSPCC Preliminary Standards Award**. This award shows that all four of the National Governing Bodies are committed to ensuring policies are in place to ensure that all young people and vulnerable adults are well cared for when attending clubs.

The Safeguarding Panel are now committed to working towards the Intermediate Standard on behalf of the four National Governing Bodies which they hope to achieve by December this year.

For more information of Child Protection & Safeguarding within the sport please visit www.bowlschildprotect.co.uk



Sport England Chief Executive visits Shaugh Prior

Jennie Price the Chief Executive of Sport England, recently broke off from a holiday in Cornwall to visit the new LifeCentre in Plymouth, a 46 million pound project which includes an 8 rink indoor bowling facility.

This was followed with a visit to the village of Shaugh Prior on the edge of Dartmoor where a new Short Mat Bowls club has been set up. This was the result of partnership working between the Bowls Development Alliance and Active Devon the County Sport Partnership who through their Devon Active Villages programme received funding from Sport England and Devon County Council to support local rural communities to be active.



As well as presenting new bowls equipment to the group Jennie took the opportunity to have a go herself and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



'working together for the benefit of our sport'

